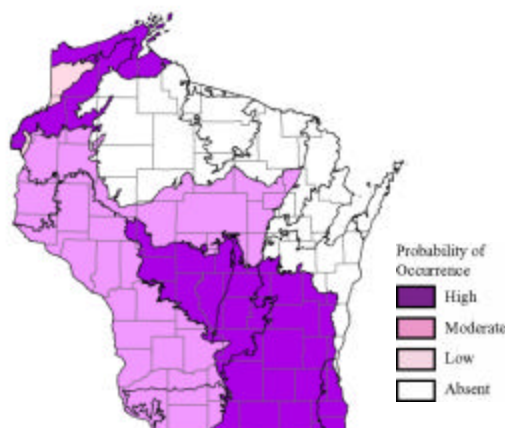


## Franklin's Ground Squirrel (*Spermophilus franklinii*)

### Species Assessment Scores\*

State rarity:	4
State threats:	3
State population trend:	5
Global abundance:	4
Global distribution:	4.5
Global threats:	4
Global population trend:	4
Mean Risk Score:	4.1
Area of importance:	2

\* Please see the [Description of Vertebrate Species Summaries \(Section 3.1.1\)](#) for definitions of criteria and scores.



### Ecological Landscape Associations

Please note that this is not a range map. Shading does not imply that the species is present throughout the Landscape, but represents the probability that the species occurs somewhere in the Landscape.

### Landscape-community Combinations of Highest Ecological Priority

Ecological Landscape	Community
Central Sand Hills	Oak barrens
Central Sand Hills	Pine barrens
Central Sand Hills	Sand prairie
Central Sand Hills	Wet-mesic prairie
Central Sand Plains	Dry-mesic prairie
Central Sand Plains	Oak barrens
Central Sand Plains	Pine barrens
Central Sand Plains	Sand prairie
Central Sand Plains	Surrogate Grasslands
Northwest Sands	Pine barrens
Northwest Sands	Surrogate Grasslands
Southeast Glacial Plains	Dry-mesic prairie
Southeast Glacial Plains	Mesic prairie
Southeast Glacial Plains	Oak opening
Southeast Glacial Plains	Oak woodland
Southeast Glacial Plains	Surrogate Grasslands
Southeast Glacial Plains	Wet-mesic prairie
Southern Lake Michigan Coastal	Great lakes dune
Southern Lake Michigan Coastal	Oak opening
Southern Lake Michigan Coastal	Wet-mesic prairie
Southwest Savanna	Dry-mesic prairie
Southwest Savanna	Oak opening
Superior Coastal Plain	Great lakes dune
Western Coulee and Ridges	Dry-mesic prairie
Western Coulee and Ridges	Oak barrens
Western Coulee and Ridges	Oak opening
Western Coulee and Ridges	Sand prairie

**Threats and Issues**

- Insufficient knowledge of Franklin's ground squirrel distribution and habitat use precludes active management.
- A lack of efficient and effective survey techniques limits our knowledge of Franklin's ground squirrel distribution, population size, and habitat use.
- Isolation of small populations by unsuitable habitat, roads, and urban areas may limit juvenile dispersal and result in local extirpation.
- Loss of savanna, shrub, and grassland habitat due to agriculture, urbanization, road construction, and forest succession threatens this species.

**Priority Conservation Actions**

- Research is needed to determine Franklin's ground squirrel distribution, habitat use, population size, and mortality factors in Wisconsin before effective management strategies can be developed and implemented.
- Identification, protection, and monitoring of existing Franklin's ground squirrel colonies is warranted.